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Viewing cable 10NEWDELHI355, NSA MENON DISCUSSES REGIONAL SECURITY AND TRADE

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- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
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| Reference ID | Created | Released | Classification | Origin |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 10NEWDELHI355 | 2010-02-25 12:56 | 2011-08-30 01:44 | CONFIDENTIAL | Embassy New Delhi |

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/india-and-neighbours/article2043148.ece>

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Thursday, 25 February 2010, 12:56
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 NEW DELHI 000355
SIPDIS

EO 12958 DECL: 02/17/2020
TAGS PGOV, PREL, PTER, PARM, KNNP, ENRG, IR, PK, IN
SUBJECT: NSA MENON DISCUSSES REGIONAL SECURITY AND TRADE
ISSUES WITH CODEL MCCASKILL

Classified By: Ambassador Tim Roemer for Reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

1. (C) SUMMARY. In a meeting with CODEL McCaskill February 17, National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon touched on regional security issues Menon Touts "Full-spectrum" Relationship, Discusses Pune Bombing

2. (C) In a wide-ranging meeting with CODEL McCaskill February 17, National Security Advisor Shivshankar Menon touched on several regional security issues. Menon welcomed the condolences offered by Senator Claire McCaskill (D-MO) for the February 13 bombing in Pune that killed 10 and injured 100. Menon said the attack was a "major tragedy" and that the United States was "deeply saddened" by the loss of life. Menon said the United States was "committed to working with India to prevent such attacks in the future."

4. (C) Menon recounted that India had entered into the Composite Dialogue with Pakistan on the basis of former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf's "26/11." Menon lamented that Pakistan had shown itself to be "unable or unwilling to wean itself off from terror as an instrument of state policy."

5. (C) Menon shared his perspective that "We are dealing with many Pakistanis, so we need to run many Pakistan policies at the same time." He said the United States was "committed to working with India to prevent such attacks in the future."

6. (C) Terrorism would be "the primary issue" in the planned February 25 Foreign Secretary-level talks, but Menon allowed that after the first round of talks, Menon said a "Minority of One" would be the focus of the talks.

7. (C) Turning to Pakistan's role in Afghanistan, Menon cautioned that if the Pakistani establishment felt U.S. commitment was flagging in Afghanistan, Menon said the United States was "committed to working with India to prevent such attacks in the future."

8. (C) McCaskill agreed we had a chance to succeed because we had adjusted our strategy. McCaskill was confident the United States would continue to work with India to prevent such attacks in the future.

9. (C) Menon agreed with Senator Jeff Merkley's (D-OR) assertion that a nuclear Iran would be bad for everyone. Merkley had supported the Obama administration's policy of "hoping mad" over India's IAEA votes and Iranian Foreign Minister Moutakki "blew up" at former National Security Advisor M.K. Narayanan during the talks.

10. (C) India had a more complex relationship with Iran and was convinced that it could work with Iran on some issues. For instance, Menon said the United States was "committed to working with India to prevent such attacks in the future."

11. (C) Menon said he appreciated all that the India and the United States had been able to accomplish together, and said we needed to do more to strengthen the relationship.

12. (C) "In order to kick the relationship into a different gear," according to Menon, we needed "to be seen to be sharing technology." We both agreed that the United States was "committed to working with India to prevent such attacks in the future."

13. (C) Merkley praised Menon's role in helping to conclude the Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement, and inquired about progress on implementing the agreement.

14. (C) McCaskill noted that if there is one issue with regard to India that makes Americans "cranky" it is that India was stealing our manuf

15. (C) CODEL McCaskill did not have the opportunity to clear this cable.

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ROEMER